

MINUTES OF THE
MAG MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

May 9, 2001
MAG Office Building - Saguaro Room
Phoenix, Arizona

MEMBERS ATTENDING

Lloyd Harrell, Chandler, Chairman
*Scott Schrader, Avondale
*Joe Blanton, Buckeye
*Jon Pearson, Carefree
Usama Abujbarah, Cave Creek
Stuart Brackney, El Mirage
Paul Nordin, Fountain Hills
Shane Dille, Gila Bend
Urban Giff, Gila River Indian Community
Kent Cooper, Gilbert
Martin Vanacour, Glendale
Stephen Cleveland, Goodyear
Tom Morales, Guadalupe
Horatio Skeete, Litchfield Park
Mike Hutchinson, Mesa
Tom Martinsen, Paradise Valley

Meredith Flinn for Terry Ellis, Peoria
Frank Fairbanks, Phoenix
*Cynthia Seelhammer, Queen Creek
David Easchief, Salt River Pima-Maricopa
Indian Community
Jan Dolan, Scottsdale
Bill Pupo, Surprise
Will Manley, Tempe
Ralph Velez, Tolleson
Fred Carpenter, Wickenburg
Lloyce Robinson, Youngtown
Mary Lynn Tischer for Mary Peters, ADOT
Tom Buick for David Smith, Maricopa County
Ken Driggs, RPTA
*+Curtis Shook, Apache Junction

*Those members neither present nor represented by proxy.

+ Non-voting

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Lloyd Harrell, Chandler, at 12:05 p.m.

Chairman Harrell stated that for agenda item #2, Approval of the April 11, 2001 Meeting Minutes, Tom Buick from Maricopa County requested a change to the last paragraph of page 5 of the minutes. A revised copy was at each place. For agenda item #10, Consultation for Project Level Conformity Determination on the Proposed Town of Gilbert Park-and-Ride Facility, the summary transmittal and accompanying information were at each place. Chairman Harrell stated that since the mailing of the Management Committee agenda, requests were received for revisions to agenda item #15, Draft FY 2002 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget, Revisions have been made and a copy of the revisions was at each place. The addenda to the agenda, item #18, MAG 208 Water Quality Management Plan Amendments for the City of El Mirage Water Reclamation Facility and for the City of Surprise Water Reclamation Facility, is at your place.

Chairman Harrell stated that transit tickets were available following the meeting from Ken Driggs from the RPTA.

2. Approval of April 11, 2001 Meeting Minutes

Chairman Harrell asked if there were any other changes to the minutes. Hearing none, he asked for a motion to approve.

Shane Dille moved to approve the revised minutes of the April 11, 2001 Management Committee meeting. Martin Vanacour seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

3. Call to the Audience

Chairman Harrell stated that a timer is available to assist the public with their presentations. He noted that public comments have a three minute time limit. Chairman Harrell stated that for members of the audience who wish to speak, cards are available from the staff who will bring it to the Chairman. Public comment is provided at the beginning of the meeting for non-agenda items. Public comments are limited to three minutes.

Chairman Harrell recognized public comment from DD Barker, who stated that she came by bus to the meeting. She thanked Mr. Driggs for the transit tickets. Ms. Barker commented on statistics reported in Destination Magazine. She stated that freeway congestion has increased 540 percent. Ms. Barker handed out transit maps. She stated that more than \$100,000 (later clarified to \$100 million by Ms. Barker) has been spent on transit in the MAG region. Ms. Barker stated that she filed a lawsuit because ballots were opened six days prior to the Phoenix Transit 2000 vote. She stated that the City Attorney has acknowledged the opening and indicated that this was allowable. Ms. Barker stated that this was allowable because Mayor Rimsza changed the ordinance. Ms. Barker stated that a decision to dismiss her lawsuit was recently upheld. She indicated that she has asked for a declaratory judgment and petitioned the Supreme Court. Chairman Harrell thanked Ms. Barker for her comments.

4. Executive Director's Report

James M. Bourey stated that some of the new microphone equipment has recently been installed.

Mr. Bourey stated that a final meeting of the Governor's Transportation Vision 21 Task Force may take place on May 31, 2001 to develop their public involvement process. Twelve statewide meetings could take place in June or July.

Mr. Bourey expressed concern with HB 2070, which has a provision to delete Apache Junction as part of the Air Quality Area A. Mr. Bourey stated that the 9-1-1 legislation will be helpful to cities.

Mr. Bourey invited members to a meeting immediately following the Management Committee to discuss the MAG name change.

Mr. Bourey stated that the five expert panel forums for the development of the new Regional Transportation Plan were recently concluded. A series of focus groups is being held. He noted that Eric Anderson, MAG staff, could provide information.

Mr. Bourey stated that MAG went through the triennial Federal certification process on April 17 and 18, 2001. Mr. Bourey stated that the FHWA, the FTA, and the EPA indicated that they were impressed with MAG's programs. The Federal officials indicated that MAG would be re-certified. A formal report is expected within the next few weeks. Mr. Bourey stated that the officials indicated that the MAG Work Program and Annual Budget were the most organized and straightforward they had reviewed. The officials stated that they wanted to use the MAG Work Program and Annual Budget as a model for others. Mr. Bourey stated that the officials were impressed with the MAG Associates and their outreach to Title IV and minority populations.

Mr. Bourey stated that the annual Desert Peaks Awards event is scheduled for June 21, 2001. Forty nominations were received. Mr. Bourey informed members that the slate of judges includes Marvin Andrews, former City of Phoenix Manager; Diane Brossart, Valley Forward Association; Mike Ellegood, Flood Control District of Maricopa County and former Desert Peaks award recipient; Carlos Galindo-Elvira, Valle del Sol, Inc.; Representative Leah Landrum, Arizona House of Representatives; Herman Orcutt, Orcutt-Winslow Partnership; Bill Post, Arizona Public Service; Mark Schnepf, former Queen Creek Mayor; and William Schrader, Salt River Project.

5. Approval of Consent Agenda

Chairman Harrell stated that public comment is provided at the beginning of the meeting for action items on consent. Each speaker is provided with a total of three minutes to comment on the consent agenda. He stated that any member of the Committee may request that an item be removed from the consent agenda and considered individually.

Chairman Harrell stated that agenda items #6, #7, #8, #9, #10, #11, #12, #13, and #18 were on the consent agenda. He asked if the public had comment on any of the consent items. Mr. Cleveland noted that the material for agenda item #18 was incorrectly labeled #9.

Mike Hutchinson requested that agenda item #7, Consultant Selection for MAG Freeway Bottleneck Study, be removed from the consent agenda to be heard.

Chairman Harrell requested a motion to approve consent agenda items # 6, #8, #9, #10, #11, #12, #13, and #18. Ken Driggs moved, Paul Nordin seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

6. Regional Aviation System Plan Update Consultant Recommendation

The Management Committee, by consent, recommended that MAG negotiate a contract with Wilbur Smith and Associates to complete the Regional Aviation System Plan Update for an amount not to exceed \$265,209. In September 2000, the MAG Regional Council approved the selection of GRW Willis to undertake an update of the MAG Regional Aviation System Plan for \$312,925. In March 2001 MAG and GRW Willis mutually agreed to terminate the contract. MAG issued a Request for Qualifications for a replacement contractor to finish the project and received two Statements of Qualifications. A multijurisdictional review group evaluated the statements of qualifications and the consensus was that MAG negotiate a contract with Wilbur Smith for an amount not to exceed \$265,209. On April 30, 2001, the MAG RASP Policy Committee concurred with the recommendation.

8. Finalization of the 1999 MAG External Travel Study

MAG has completed a regional External Travel Study. This study was conducted in partnership with Maricopa County. The study consultant interviewed 7,000 persons and collected traffic counts at 17 locations on the perimeter of the MAG transportation modeling area. This data was used to quantify the amount of travel that crosses the MAG area and the amount of travel from the MAG area to other parts of the state or country. This information is being used to support the MAG modeling and planning activities.

9. Proposed Administrative Adjustment and Amendment to the FY 2001-2005 MAG Transportation Improvement Program

The Management Committee, by consent, recommended approving the amendments to the FY 2001-2005 MAG Transportation Improvement Program for the transit projects and the projects requested by ADOT as described in the tables in the Transmittal Summary. On April 24, 2001, the Transportation Review Committee recommended amendments for transit projects to the FY 2001-2005 MAG TIP. The purpose of the amendments is for the advance purchase of 16 expansion and nine replacement buses for the City of Phoenix, and to add park-and-ride projects for FY 2001. Local funds are being used to advance projects for Gilbert and Phoenix. Design for a park-and-ride in Mesa is being deferred. Since the TRC meeting, ADOT submitted a request to add three federally funded projects and four locally funded projects to FY 2001.

10. Consultation for Project Level Conformity Determination on the Proposed Town of Gilbert Park-and-Ride Facility

The Town of Gilbert has requested concurrence for the project-level conformity determination prepared for the Gilbert Park-and-Ride facility. The Gilbert Park-and-Ride facility is proposed for the southwest corner of Page Avenue and Ash Street, directly off of Gilbert Road in Gilbert on a three acre parcel. The project is identified as GLB00-003 in the FY 2001-2005 MAG Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for fiscal year 2003. The estimated cost of this project is \$3.6 million. The project was exempt from the regional emissions analyses according to the federal transportation conformity guidelines as a “bus terminal and transfer point.” A conformity determination is required for federal-aid assisted projects under the transportation conformity guidelines. The Regional Public Transportation Authority has prepared an air quality impact analysis, which includes a carbon monoxide hot-spot analysis for this project. The analysis concludes that the Gilbert Park-and-Ride facility will not cause or contribute to an exceedance of the carbon monoxide standard. MAG has reviewed the air quality impact analysis for completeness and concurs with the findings. The current conformity finding of the TIP and the associated Long Range Transportation Plan Summary and 2000 Update that was made jointly by the Federal Highway Administration and Federal Transit Administration in a letter dated July 31, 2000, remains unchanged by this action.

11. Consultation on Conformity Assessment for Proposed Administrative Adjustment and Amendment to the FY 2001-2005 MAG Transportation Improvement Program for the FY 2001 Interim Closeout

The interim closeout of the FY 2001 federally funding program requires an administrative adjustment to 20 projects and an amendment to add five new projects to the FY 2001-2005 MAG

Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). The administrative adjustment is necessary to advance 18 projects to FY 2001 and to increase funding for two projects in FY 2001. An amendment is necessary to add three new regional study projects, a new fixed route farebox project, and a new Fibre Optic Backbone design project. MAG has reviewed the projects for compliance with the federal conformity rule (40 CFR Parts 51 and 93) and has found that the project changes require consultation on the conformity assessment. The proposed 20 minor project revisions may be characterized as an administrative adjustment for which a conformity determination is not required. The proposed five new projects may be categorized as exempt, for which a conformity determination is not required. The current conformity finding of the TIP and the associated Long Range Transportation Plan Summary and 2000 update that was made jointly by the Federal Highway Administration and Federal Transit Administration in a letter dated July 31, 2000, would be unchanged by this action.

12. Consultation on Conformity Assessment for a Proposed Administrative Adjustment and Amendment to the FY 2001-2005 MAG Transportation Improvement Program

The Regional Public Transportation Authority has requested that the Maricopa Association of Governments (MAG) make an administrative adjustment to nine transit and park-and-ride projects to the FY 2001-2005 MAG Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). In addition, the Arizona Department of Transportation has requested an amendment to add three new right-of-way and ramp meter projects. MAG has reviewed the proposed projects for compliance with the federal conformity rule (40 CFR Parts 51 and 93) and has found that the project changes require consultation on the conformity assessment. The proposed nine minor project revisions may be characterized as an administrative adjustment for which a conformity determination is not required. The proposed three new projects may be categorized as exempt, for which a conformity determination is not required. The current conformity finding of the TIP and the associated Long Range Transportation Plan Summary and 2000 Update that was made jointly by the Federal Highway Administration and Federal Transit Administration in a letter dated July 31, 2000, would be unchanged by this action.

13. Homeless Continuum of Care Recommendations

On December 8, 1999, the Regional Council approved MAG becoming the responsible entity for a year round homeless planning process which includes submittal of the HUD Stuart B. McKinney Continuum of Care Consolidated Application for Maricopa County. The Continuum of Care grant supports transitional and permanent housing, and supportive services. Last year, the region received \$18.6 million. A Continuum of Care Steering Committee was formed and chaired by former Chief Justice Frank Gordon. MAG received 26 applications from nonprofit organizations in the Valley on April 9, 2001. A ranking and review process, administered by the Valley of the Sun United Way, will be completed by May 15, 2001. The Regional Council will be requested to comment on the application on May 23, 2001 before the grant is submitted to the Department of Housing and Urban Development on May 31, 2001. No comments on the Continuum of Care recommendations were received from the Management Committee.

18. MAG 208 Water Quality Management Plan Amendments for the City of El Mirage Water Reclamation Facility and for the City of Surprise Water Reclamation Facility

The Management Committee, by consent, recommended approving the Draft MAG 208 Water Quality Management Plan Amendments for the City of El Mirage Water Reclamation Facility and for the City of Surprise South Water Reclamation Facility. The City of El Mirage has requested that MAG amend the 208 Water Quality Management Plan to include an expansion of the El Mirage Water Reclamation Facility. The El Mirage facility would be expanded from the current capacity of 0.7 million gallons per day (mgd) to an ultimate capacity of 3.6 mgd. The City of Glendale, City of Peoria, City of Surprise, Town of Youngtown and Unincorporated Maricopa County are within three miles of the project and have indicated they do not object to the proposed facility.

The City of Surprise has requested that MAG amend the 208 Water Quality Management Plan to include an expansion of the Surprise South Water Reclamation Facility. The Surprise South facility would be expanded from the current 3.2 mgd to an ultimate capacity of 36.0 mgd. The City of El Mirage, City of Glendale, City of Peoria, Town of Youngtown and Unincorporated Maricopa County are within three miles of the project and have indicated they do not object to the proposed facility. The MAG Water Quality Advisory Committee recommended approval of both Draft 208 Plan Amendments.

7. Consultant Selection for MAG Freeway Bottleneck Study

This item was removed from the consent agenda.

Mark Schlappi gave a presentation on the MAG Freeway Bottleneck Study. The FY 2001 MAG Unified Planning Work Program includes a \$300,000 project to improve traffic flow at bottlenecks on the MAG freeway system. He displayed graphs that showed that the Phoenix Metro area ranks 13th in traffic congestion. Mr. Schlappi showed a map that showed the level of service for the PM Peak period. He noted that red designated level of service F. Mr. Schlappi stated that there are three ways to address congestion: by adding capacity, managing demand, and increasing system efficiency. He noted that this study would increase system efficiency by decreasing bottlenecks. Mr. Schlappi stated that the objectives of the study include identifying bottleneck locations, identifying improvements to those bottlenecks, ranking the improvements, determining costs for the improvements, and determining the benefits. He displayed a map of the study area. Anticipated bottleneck locations to be studied include Loop 202/I-10/SR 51 Interchange, the Broadway Curve (I-10, US 60 to 48th Street), Loop 101/Loop 202 Interchange, I-10/I-17 Interchange near 23rd Avenue, I-10 between Loop 101 and I-17, SR 51. If others are identified, they should be examined. Mr. Schlappi stated that these locations are included because they have recurring congestion.

Mr. Schlappi stated that a Request for Proposals was advertised and two proposals were received from Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc. and Olsson Associates. A multi-jurisdictional evaluation group comprised of ADOT, Chandler, Glendale, MAG, Maricopa County, and Phoenix representatives, reviewed the proposals and interviewed the two firms. Mr. Schlappi stated that the rankings were quite close, but the consensus was to select Olsson Associates to conduct the study in an amount not to exceed \$300,000. At their April 24, 2001 meeting, the Transportation

Review Committee recommended Olsson Associates to conduct the study. Chairman Harrell thanked Mr. Schlappi for his presentation and asked if there was discussion.

Mr. Hutchinson stated that he requested that this item be heard because the MAG Freeway Bottleneck Study is an important study. He offered his compliments to MAG for the study. Mr. Hutchinson indicated the timeliness of the study. Because of the recent publicity, congestion is an issue on everyone's mind.

Mr. Hutchinson moved to recommend that Olsson Associates be selected to conduct the MAG Freeway Bottleneck Study for an amount not to exceed \$300,000. Mr. Cooper seconded.

Mr. Fairbanks commended staff for the effort on undertaking this important study. He indicated that the study emphasis might need to include examination of freeway capacity needs. Mr. Fairbanks indicated that rather than doing a separate study, the whole picture should be considered. Mr. Bourey stated that MAG is in the process of developing the new Regional Transportation Plan, which will examine system capacity throughout the entire region.

Hearing no further discussion, Chairman Harrell asked for a vote on the motion to recommend that Olsson Associates be selected to conduct the MAG Freeway Bottleneck Study for an amount not to exceed \$300,000. The motion passed unanimously.

14. Federal Fiscal Year 2001 MAG Federal Funds Interim Closeout and Amendments to the FY 2001-2005 MAG Transportation Improvement Program and FY 2001 Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget

Paul Ward gave a presentation on the closeout of FY 2001 federal funds. Each year, MAG conducts a close out process to use the MAG federal funds. He reviewed the closeout procedures, approved by the Regional Council in 1995, and as amended in 1996, that help ensure the full use of MAG federal funding. At the beginning of the federal FY, available funds are identified and compared with programmed projects. Uncommitted funds and available Obligation Authority can then be ascertained. By March 1, member agencies notify MAG of which projects need to be carried forward from the current year to the next year. Projects are then identified that can use the funds released in the current year. The first priority is to advance from future years current federally funded programmed projects that are ready to be obligated. The second priority is to increase the federal share of projects being obligated in the first year of the program. Mr. Ward stated that member agencies are encouraged to have programmed federally funded projects ready to be obligated as soon as possible. Projects ready to go will have a high priority to be advanced to the current fiscal year to ensure that committed Obligation Authority is fully used, and to increase prospects of receiving a share of redistributed Obligation Authority.

Mr. Ward stated that \$69.3 million in Obligation Authority is available for FY 2001 and projects programmed total \$69 million, leaving \$300,000 in uncommitted funding. Obligation Authority needs to be obligated in this fiscal year, or it may be lost. For this phase of the close out, approximately \$13.8 million was available, with over \$16 million in project requests received. On April 24, 2001, the Transportation Review Committee recommended \$12.2 million in projects for the closeout funds. Since the TRC meeting a \$195,000 design project in Scottsdale was deleted and a Phoenix project was deferred to 2003. These uncommitted funds were added and the remaining uncommitted funds available increased to \$2.2 million. Mr. Ward stated that the

TRC will address the available funds at their next meeting. Mr. Ward noted that since the TRC meeting, the RPTA requested that the bus acceleration from 2003 be changed to new money for light rail. Also, a change is needed to replace the street sweeper acceleration from 2002 to new money.

Mr. Ward stated that the requested action was to recommend approving the MAG Federal FY 2001 closeout as recommended by the TRC at their April 24, 2001 meeting as follows: 1) Carry forward the projects listed in Table One; 2) Add new projects, accelerate projects and add additional funds for other projects listed in Table Three; 3) Authorize an amendment to the FY 2001-2005 MAG Transportation Improvement Program to include the necessary projects in FY 2001 of the TIP; 4) Amend the FY 2001 MAG Unified Planning Work Program to include the additional studies and purchase of street sweepers as shown in Table Four; and 5) Approve adjustments to the Draft FY 2002-2006 MAG Transportation Improvement Program as listed in Table Five.

Chairman Harrell recognized public comment from Blue Crowley, who stated that there is a \$170 million discrepancy between the Transportation Improvement Program and the RPTA budget. Mr. Crowley stated that ADOT does not have carry forward. He indicated that he wants to have transit and the bike portions done as a part of the plan. Mr. Crowley expressed his appreciation for bus service on 51st Avenue, but it only goes to Olive north. Chairman Harrell thanked Mr. Crowley for his comments. He asked if members had questions for Mr. Ward. Hearing none, he asked for a motion.

Fred Carpenter moved to recommend approving the MAG Federal FY 2001 closeout as recommended by the TRC at their April 24, 2001 meeting as follows: 1) Carry forward the projects listed in Table One; 2) Add new projects, accelerate projects and add additional funds for existing projects listed in Table Three, except changing the accelerations currently recommended for FY 2005 Light Rail Transit and FY 2002 street sweepers to additional funds in FY 2001; 3) Authorize an amendment to the FY 2001-2005 MAG Transportation Improvement Program as needed; 4) Amend the FY 2001 MAG Unified Planning Work Program as needed; and 5) Approve adjustments to the Draft FY 2002-2006 MAG Transportation Improvement Program as needed. Mr. Driggs seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

15. Draft FY 2002 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget

Becky Kimbrough gave a presentation on the Draft FY 2002 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget. Each year MAG develops a Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget for the coming year. The purpose of this document is to provide grantors, the MAG staff and the public with the Regional Council's policy direction and fiscal commitments in the agency's regional planning efforts. Ms. Kimbrough stated that the City of Scottsdale requested revisions to the Work Program. The revisions have been made and will be incorporated into the Work Program. Ms. Kimbrough noted that there are eight opportunities for input on the Work Program and Annual Budget. She stated that the document is available for review in the MAG library.

Ms. Kimbrough displayed a pie chart of the funding used in planning for the region, totaling \$615.4 million. She displayed a pie chart that showed the source of MAG funds, including federal revenue and carryforward, state, and local. Local revenue includes member dues and

assessments of \$167,873. The member dues and assessments were adjusted to reflect population growth and inflation. In contrast, member dues and assessments for Pima Association of Governments total \$669,800. Their organization represents a region one-third the size of MAG. Ms. Kimbrough displayed a chart of declining reserves. The reserves decreased because they have been used since FY 2000 to support staff functions. Ms. Kimbrough stated that the largest MAG expenditure is personnel cost, followed by project consultants. Ms. Kimbrough displayed a chart that compared the FY 2001 and FY 2002 budgets. She stated that the amended FY 2001 totaled \$18,457,097 and the proposed FY 2002 budget totals \$11,014,227.

Ms. Kimbrough displayed a chart showing the funds by program area expenditure, FY 2000 through FY 2002. She noted that FY 2001 was impacted by expenditures for the Freeway Service Patrol and purchase of street sweepers. Ms. Kimbrough displayed a list of TIP closeout consultant projects programmed into the FY 2002 budget. She noted that \$4.9 million is budgeted as a result of the closeout. Chairman Harrell thanked Ms. Kimbrough for her presentation and asked if there were any questions. Hearing none, he asked for a motion.

Paul Nordin moved to recommend approving the resolution adopting the FY 2002 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget and the member dues and assessments. Mr. Velez seconded.

Before a vote was taken, Mr. Fairbanks requested that, in the future, a summary of significant changes to programs could be drafted so that it would be easier to keep track of changes. Mr. Bourey responded that this could be provided in the future.

Hearing no further discussion, Chairman Harrell asked for a vote on the motion to recommend approving the resolution adopting the FY 2002 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget and the member dues and assessments. The motion carried unanimously.

16. Regional Review of General Plans and Amendments

Chairman Harrell stated that Mr. Cooper had indicated that he would offer a motion for agenda items #16 and #17. Therefore, the presentations would be given first, followed by action, if there were no objections. Mr. Bourey stated that he had no objection to discussion of the items together, but each item should have an individual vote.

Jack Tomasik gave a presentation on the Regional Review of General Plans and Amendments. At the December 2000 Management Committee and January 2001 Regional Council Retreats, there was a consensus to establish a regional review of general plans. This concept was further reviewed at the February and March Executive Committee meetings, and at the April Planners Stakeholders Group meeting. It is envisioned that General plans and amendments would be reviewed for: (1) Consistency with plans and policies adopted by MAG; (2) Consistency with principles contained in Growing Smarter Legislation; (3) Impacts on other local government jurisdictions; (4) Adequacy of regional public facilities to handle effects of the proposed plan and amendment and (5) Consistency with adopted Interim Regional Land Use Policies. A regional review procedure was developed involving a MAG review, involvement of the Planner Stakeholders Group and if necessary, the Management Committee and the Regional Council. An annual report would also be developed.

Mr. Tomasik displayed a flow chart that showed the basic procedures. 1) Member agency sends general plan or amendment to MAG. 2) MAG staff review prepared and sent to member agency. 3) Member agency transmits response to MAG. 3) MAG staff forwards general plan/amendment, MAG review letter, agency response to all member agencies. 4) If a member agency requests discussion of proposed plan/amendment, item discussed by Planners Stakeholders Group. 5) If further discussion necessary, item discussed by Management Committee. 6) If further discussion necessary, item discussed by Regional Council. 7) Results of review, response and discussion forwarded to the level at which the discussion ended. 8) Decision makers on the draft general plan could take this information into account. Chairman Harrell thanked Mr. Tomasik for his presentation and asked if there were any questions.

Mr. Vanacour asked about potential timing issues regarding required public participation by cities and towns. Mr. Tomasik responded that there could be timing implications. He stated that right now, as per statute, MAG is being forwarded draft plans at the same time they go to local councils. Because of discussion by planners, the Management Committee and Regional Council would need to get draft plans earlier. Jan Dolan stated that a review is generally good, and commented on the impacts to cities' processes. She indicated that additional time could be needed for this additional discussion inside MAG and put more pressure on cities to meet the statutory deadlines. Mr. Bourey stated that MAG will work with cities to meet their time frames. He noted that MAG recently worked with the City of Phoenix in this regard. He expressed that it is vital to move forward and establish a process, otherwise there may not be a future opportunity because all of the jurisdictions are now going through the process. Mr. Fairbanks commented on a need to form a new committee. Mr. Tomasik stated that the planning group already exists and there would be no need to form a new committee.

17. Broadening Participation in the Maricopa Association of Governments

Mr. Bourey stated that at the Management Committee Retreats in 2000 and 2001, discussion was held regarding broadening participation in the Maricopa Association of Governments. A report was prepared describing how the business community and adjoining units of local government in the metropolitan area could participate in MAG. If membership by the business community and adjoining units of local government is approved by the Management Committee and Regional Council, the By-Laws changes would be considered at the June meeting of the Regional Council. Mr. Bourey noted that expanding membership is a concern. He stated that the Governor's Vision 21 Task Force recommendations and articles in the *Arizona Republic* have caused MAG to examine expanding membership. Mr. Bourey stated that the Regional Council has indicated that MAG needs to be proactive. Chairman Harrell thanked Mr. Bourey and asked if there were any questions.

Mr. Carpenter asked for clarification whether only Apache Junction would be considered for membership. Mr. Bourey replied that discussion examined the Pinal County area and potentially Casa Grande. He noted that any expansion of membership would come back for consideration by the Management Committee and Regional Council. Mr. Bourey stated that no decisions have yet been made.

Mr. Cleveland stated that the process of #16 is similar to the process for #17 and Regional Transportation Plan efforts. The regional process links to Growing Smarter legislation. Mr. Bourey stated that a provision in the Growing Smarter statute includes review by regional

planning agencies. He stated that the presentation on growth given at the retreats made evident that the futures of the surrounding regions are interrelated. Mr. Bourey stated that the review is not to approve land use plans, but to look at individual plans and make a composite to show how they relate to each other and to already adopted MAG regional plans and policies.

Mr. Skeete asked for clarification of the reason #16 and #17 would be combined. He expressed concern for the validity of the review of individual plans. He asked where the public fits into the process. Mr. Skeete noted that Litchfield Park has a 60-day public comment period. He commented on forming another group that would not have legislative authority. Chairman Harrell replied that #16 and #17 would be combined because Mr. Cooper indicated that he was going to make a motion for both items. Chairman Harrell stated that the review of local plans was discussed at the Management Committee retreat. At that time, things were occurring that could be detrimental and there was no process in place to comment on significant developments. He noted that this would be a good step. A process needs to be designed that would not tie hands. Mr. Skeete asked how county plans would be reviewed. He expressed concern with expansion and changes to the By-laws.

Mr. Easchief asked how the process would interact with the sovereignty of the Indian Communities. He commented on possible conflict of interest with private sector membership. Mr. Bourey stated that MAG would have no authority for the approval of plans. Comments would be provided to cities to do with as they will. Mr. Bourey noted that in regard to conflict of interest, caution would need to be exercised. He noted that private sector individuals presently serve on some MAG committees.

Mr. Giff stated that he shared similar concerns of Mr. Easchief. He stated that it is important to share information, but decisions at the Regional Council level might not be the appropriate level for discussions to take place. Mr. Giff stated that the Gila River Community is in favor of regional planning, but that planners might be concerned with relinquishing control. However, MAG agencies are here for mutual benefit.

Mr. Cooper stated that the reason to link agenda items #16 and #17 is that there is a need to show what we are and what we are trying to achieve in regional governance. He indicated that MAG would be better served by having more input. Upcoming things to be approved in June could be piecemeal without an overall structure. Mr. Cooper stated that it is important for the Management Committee to recommend to the Regional Council that they have more participants and hear what other stakeholders have to say. Mr. Cooper stated that #16 is a departure and expansion of MAG in a positive way. He stated that since MAG has no authority, the procedure for #16 is based on a peer pressure tactic. This might be a good solution, but is an area of concern for some. Mr. Cooper recommended that the procedure be followed on a voluntary basis. He stated that both agenda items represent a change in direction for MAG and should be considered by all together.

Mr. Cooper moved to recommend that the Regional Council create a committee comprised of Mayors, Managers, and other parties deemed appropriate by them to study the issue of regional governance; and that this group be charged with making recommendations on today's agenda items #16 and #17, plus a possible name change for MAG; and examine alternative governance options after seeking input from other interested stakeholders; and that this task force complete

their recommendations and report back by November 30, 2001. Mr. Cooper indicated that a separate vote would not be a problem. Mr. Vanacour seconded.

Mr. Bourey commented that he had indicated a separate vote would be preferable, but after hearing the discussion and motion, he agreed that one vote could be taken on both items. He commented that he understood from the discussion that members had issue with discussion of the review of general plans escalating to the Management Committee and Regional Council, and members were comfortable with continuing the existing review process.

Mr. Carpenter asked if the Planning Group would continue. Mr. Bourey confirmed that it would.

Jeff Martin replaced Mike Hutchinson. Mr. Martin stated that it is important to have a process that gives credibility to the governance issue. The process would demonstrate to critics that MAG is not dodging the issue. Mr. Nordin commented on the balance of the task force to include small and tribal communities. Mr. Bourey suggested including the language “create a broad and inclusionary committee” in the motion. He mentioned that the Executive Committee would be discussing this issue at their next meeting. Mr. Bourey stated that he would convey comments made today to the Executive Committee.

Mr. Skeete asked if six months to achieve the charge was a realistic goal for the task force. Chairman Harrell noted that the committee could ask for an extension if needed.

Ms. Robinson stated that expansion of MAG needs to be studied. She noted previous discussion at the Management Committee retreat involved the potential inclusion of business and education interests.

Mr. Pupo asked if a resource allocation for the task force would be needed. Mr. Bourey replied that MAG would absorb costs. He noted that contingency is available.

Hearing no further discussion, Chairman Harrell asked for a vote. The motion passed with Mr. Fairbanks and Ms. Tischer abstaining.

Mr. Bourey invited members to attend the meeting on the third floor to discuss the MAG name change.

Ms. Dolan expressed her support for the motion on agenda items #16 and #17. She thanked Mr. Bourey for bringing the issues to the table.

There being no further business, Chairman Harrell asked for a motion to adjourn. Mr. Carpenter moved, Mr. Martinsen seconded and the meeting adjourned at 1:35 p.m.

Chairman

Secretary